

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

WILLIAM R. REETZ and RONALD R. TAYLOR

Our File: RTZ 302D

Serial No. : 09/990,472

Group No. 1732

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Examiner: Mary Theisen

For : METHOD OF FORMING A THERMOACTIVE
BINDER COMPOSITE

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RULE 132 DECLARATION

I, William R. Reetz, hereby testify and declare as follows:

1. I am one of the named inventors in connection with the above-identified application and have personal knowledge of a substantial number of comparative tests that were performed using non-structural building material samples made according to the invention, and comparing them to conventional products including hardboard, cedar, oriented-strand board (OSB) and cementitious material.

2. Exhibit A shows the results of one of those comparative tests with the acronym TPC corresponding to product samples made according to the invention. The tests were run according to accepted standards and the so-called thermatron thickness swell results are reported.

3. Exhibit B shows another set of comparative test results comparing the moisture response of a product sample made according to the invention with several other conventional products.

4. Exhibit C shows another set of comparative test results comparing what are known as "ultimate" test values corresponding to bending strength (MOR) and bending stiffness (MOE).

5. Exhibit D shows a final set of comparative test results comparing what is known as "fastener withdrawal numbers".

6. Each of the above-identified test results shows the surprising results obtained using product samples according to the invention. I am unaware of any product that can provide comparable physical test properties and is made using hot air alone to bind a base material that includes a thermal active component.

7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

Dated: 22 MAY 2003

William R. Reetz
WILLIAM R. REETZ